

# State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY  
GOVERNOR

## MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY

2008

### BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

#### A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, each year, thousands of children in North Carolina are reported missing, many of whom are runaways, some of whom are taken by non-custodial parents and a few who are abducted by strangers; and

WHEREAS, 9,127 cases of missing children were recorded in North Carolina last year, and about 96% of those were recovered, leaving hundreds of children who remain missing; and

WHEREAS, the N.C. Center for Missing Persons maintains an extensive computer database and serves as a statewide resource center for information on missing children; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Center for Missing Persons works closely with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies in the recovery of these young people who range in age from newborn to 17 years; and

WHEREAS, the Center activates the NC AMBER Alert system when a child is believed to be abducted by a stranger or in danger of injury or death; and

WHEREAS, the Center, in partnership with the North Carolina Education Lottery, now publicizes AMBER Alerts on lottery terminals across the state; and

WHEREAS, the Center activated the AMBER Alert system 13 times in 2007, with successful recoveries of all children involved; and

WHEREAS, families can take steps to prevent child abductions by knowing where their children play, who their friends are and talking with them about their safety at home, at school and on the internet; and

WHEREAS, to file a police or sheriff's report when a child is missing, parents should be ready with updated photos of the child, information on where the child was last known to have been, what the child was wearing, and names of the child's family and friends; and

WHEREAS, in the upcoming year, the N.C. Center for Missing Persons will be implementing more AMBER Alert training for law enforcement officers statewide; and

WHEREAS, the NC Center for Missing Persons will study high risk teenage runaways between the ages of 13 and 17 and develop a program that will unite these high risk children and their families with existing support services and resources; and

WHEREAS, the Center joins the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in observing National Missing Children's Day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael F. Easley, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim Sunday, May 25, 2008, as "MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY" in North Carolina, and encourage all citizens to participate in the observance by wearing a white ribbon to signify the innocence of youth.



  
MICHAEL F. EASLEY

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby set my hand and affix the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight, and of the Independence of the United States the \_\_\_\_\_ hundred and thirty-second.